Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

MOSQUITO MENACE—CONTROL OF

73. Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Will the Government be pleased to make a statement showing the actual progress made in the destruction of mosquitoes or in putting a stop to the acts of tyranny and oppression committed by the army of mosquitoes in the State?

Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Steps are being taken by the Public Health Department every year to put a stop to the ravages committed by the anopheline mosquitoes in Chittur Taluk and the incidence of malaria in those parts has been reduced to a great extent.

In Mattancheri Municipality a special staff was appointed from Meenam 1114. This staff made house to house visits, cleaned premises and places likely to breed the stegomyia mosquitoes, and destroyed all larvae and eggs. Leaflets were distributed to the citizens explaining how the nuisance of mosquitoes can be eradicated. Stagnant pools and canals are being reclaimed as far as possible to destroy the breeding places of the two common varieties of mosquitoes in Mattancheri, the anopheles and culex.

In Ernakulam also action is being taken to destroy the stegomyia type of mosquitoes.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Will the Government be pleased to state whether any co-operation is being extended to the planters, as regards the removal of malaria-breeding mosquitoes?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* The matter is under consideration.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know whether canals and mosquito breeding places still exist in Mattancheri?

Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Mattancheri is not still an ideal place. And such places still exist.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Are you aware of Kuvapadam which is full of mosquitoes?

Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Active steps are being taken to reclaim those places.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* What are the active steps that are taken?

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Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government):* A staff has been sanctioned to survey the whole place.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Are the Government aware that a new school has been built in Mattancheri and there are two canals one on the northern side and the other on the southern side which still breed mosquitoes?

Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Yes. There are other places also.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Has any estimate been made to make these canals free from mosquitoes?

Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government):* No estimate has been made.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* I think the Chief Engineer will be able to explain that.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* A comprehensive scheme is being prepared for the proper drainage of the Mattancheri town and after the scheme is prepared, it will be put into operation, and the question of mosquitoes will also be considered.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Will the Chief Medical Officer say whether these canals will be salubrious to the health of the students? It is a matter that affects the teachers and students. Every day a large number of students accumulate in these places. Therefore I would ask the Director of Public Instruction and the Chief Engineer whether it is not necessary to improve the condition of these places.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* There is nothing special there. The school is not a residential place. Apart from what is happening in the school, there is nothing special to keep out the mosquitoes as regards the students are concerned.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Do not the mosquitoes bite the people during day time?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* It is not possible to say that.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* I request that at least these two canals may be kept clean. You will find, it is a sort of cesspool where people ease comfortably in the night.

Mr. President: We will forward these observations to the Mattancheri Municipality.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Is it not the duty of the Municipality to tackle this problem?

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Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: It is a matter in sanitation for the citizens. The citizens get the bite and the children will get unhealthy if they assemble in those places. I was surprised why people were erecting buildings in those places before the canals are set right. You cannot pass by them on account of the stink and effluvia emanating from these canals. Some action must therefore be taken.

Dr. T. Varghese *(Officiating Chief Medical Officer)*: There are two kinds of mosquitoes, the anopheline mosquitoes and the stegomyia mosquitoes. The former type exists in malarial districts. It is the stegomyia mosquitoes that we see in our parts. They usually bite during night time and not during the day.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: May I know how many mosquitoes you have examined ? *(Laughter)*.

ART-GALLERY, TRICHUR—VISITING HOURS

74. Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur)*: Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the art-gallery at the Trichur Town Hall is closed to the public after 5 p.m.;

(*b*) whether the Government is aware that the time most convenient to the public to visit the art-gallery is between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.; and

(*c*) whether the Government will be pleased to see that the art-gallery is open to the public between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. also?

Mr. P. J. George *(Joint Secretary to Government)*:

(*a*) The art-gallery was open for public view from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. It has now been ordered that instead of from 3 to 5 p.m. it will be kept open from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

POVERTY CERTIFICATES—ISSUE OF—PRESCRIPTION OF RULES, ETC.

75. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli)*: Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether there is any register kept in the Village Offices, of poverty certificates issued to students or their parents by the Paravathyakarans;

(*b*) whether the Government are in a position to give the exact number of such poverty certificates issued by Paravathyakarans in 1114;

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